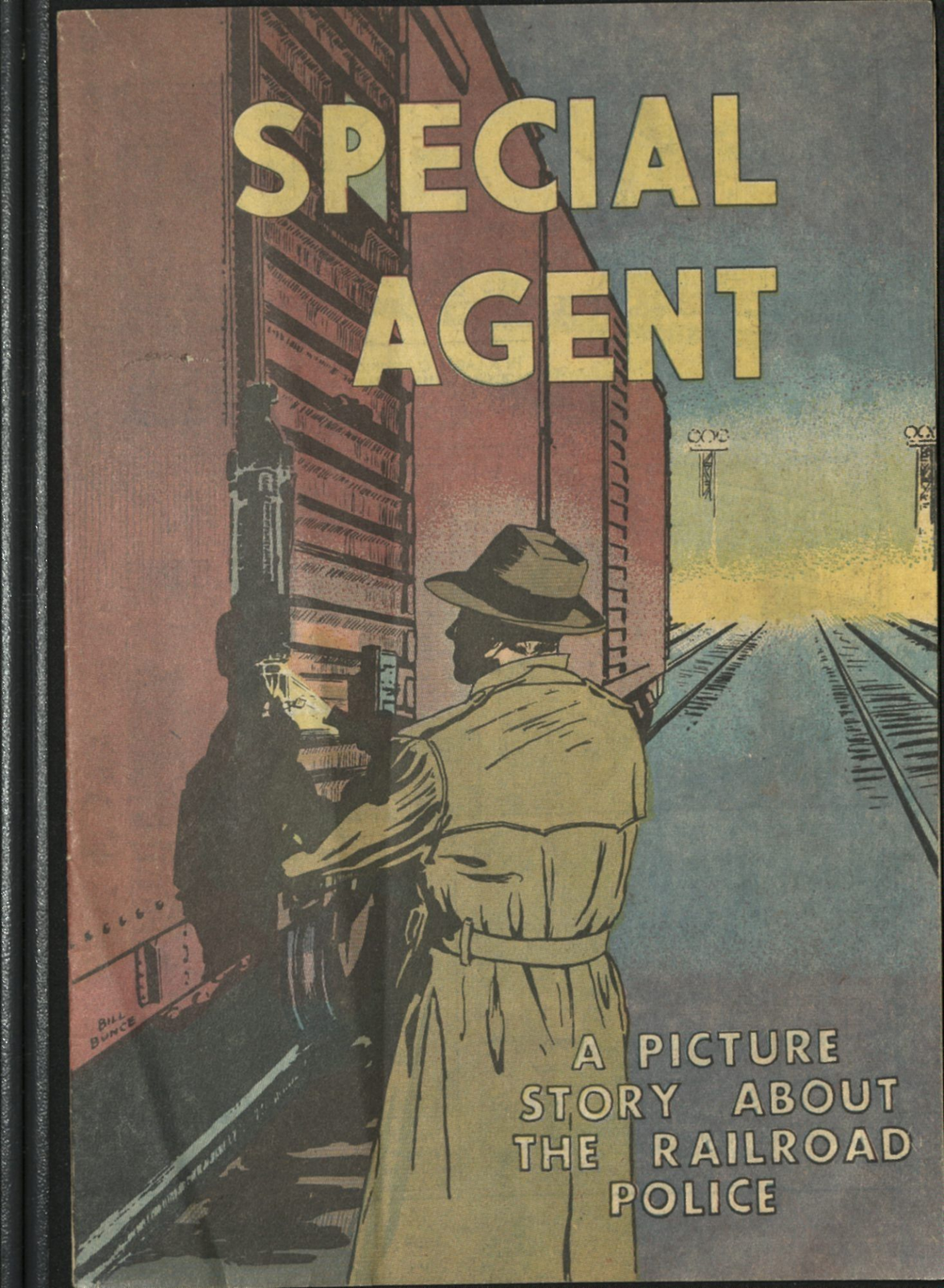


SPECIAL AGENT

A man in a trench coat and hat is seen from behind, looking down a long railroad track. The track stretches into the distance under a hazy, yellowish sky. On the left, there are tall, multi-story buildings. The man is wearing a light-colored trench coat with a belt and a fedora-style hat. The overall style is that of a classic pulp magazine cover.

A PICTURE
STORY ABOUT
THE RAILROAD
POLICE

BILL
BUNCE



IN A LARGE CLASSIFICATION YARD, A FREIGHT TRAIN CARRYING VALUABLE MERCHANDISE STANDS ON A DEPARTURE TRACK, READY TO ROLL. WHEELS AND JOURNAL BEARINGS HAVE BEEN CHECKED, AIR BRAKE INSPECTORS HAVE GIVEN THE TRAIN A CLEARANCE...



...AND RAILROAD POLICEMEN OR SPECIAL AGENTS HAVE EXAMINED THE CARS TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE PROPERLY SEALED. (SEALS ARE SMALL METAL STRIPS APPLIED TO THE DOOR OF A CAR WHEN IT HAS BEEN LOADED.)



THE LONG TRAIN MOVES OUT OF THE YARD AND ONTO THE MAIN LINE. IT SPEEDS ALONG ON A FAST SCHEDULE, COVERING MANY MILES BY THE END OF THE DAY...



AND EARLY NEXT MORNING ARRIVES AT ITS DESTINATION POINT—ANOTHER LARGE YARD.



THIS CAR'S BEEN TAMPERED WITH. I'LL TAKE A LOOK INSIDE.

THERE THE CARS ARE AGAIN EXAMINED BY A RAILROAD POLICEMAN. HIS EXPERIENCED EYE NOTICES A BROKEN SEAL...

SEVERAL CARTONS HAVE BEEN OPENED. ARE ANY MISSING?

YES, TWO CARTONS OF LEATHER JACKETS. THE WAYBILL SHOWS 25 CARTONS. NOW THERE ARE ONLY 23.

SEEMS TO BE A ROUTINE CASE OF THEFT. WE'LL HAVE TO CHECK THOSE OPENED BOXES - SEE IF ANYTHING HAS BEEN TAKEN. YOU CAN GET THE REST OF THE CREW DOWN HERE. I'LL CALL LIEUTENANT JOHNSON. HE'LL TAKE OVER THE INVESTIGATION.

...AND HE CHECKS AT ONCE WITH THE FREIGHT CONDUCTOR TO DETERMINE IF A THEFT HAS TAKEN PLACE. THE CAR CONTAINS CARTONS OF CLOTHING, SOME OF WHICH HAVE BEEN OPENED.

THAT WAS LONG ENOUGH TO OPEN THE CAR. BIG ROCKS THE ONLY PLACE BETWEEN HERE AND THE JUNCTION WHERE HOBOES CAN BOARD A FAST FREIGHT. IT LOOKS LIKE THE SEALS WERE ALL O.K. AT THE DIVISION POINT, BUT WE WENT IN THE HOLE AT BIG ROCK SIDING FOR TWENTY MINUTES.

HOBOES' WORK, BUT YOU DIDN'T SEE ANY HOBOES.

NO OTHER MERCHANDISE IS MISSING - JUST THE JACKETS.

I'LL WIRE LAKESIDE JUNCTION TO MAKE A SEARCH OF THE AREA, AND CHECK WITH THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE ON THAT COUNTRY STORE THEFT A COUPLE OF NIGHTS AGO. THERE MAY BE SOME CONNECTION. THIS WAS AN INTERSTATE SHIPMENT SO THE F.B.I. WILL BE NOTIFIED. I'M GOING OUT TO LAKESIDE ON 17.

THE THEFT HAVING BEEN REPORTED THE OFFICER APPLIES A NEW SEAL TO THE CAR AND MOVES AT ONCE TO LOCATE AND RECOVER THE STOLEN GOODS, AND IDENTIFY, LOCATE, AND APPREHEND THE PARTY OR PARTIES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE THEFT. THE INFORMATION GOES OUT ON TELETYPE TO ALL RAILROAD SPECIAL AGENTS...

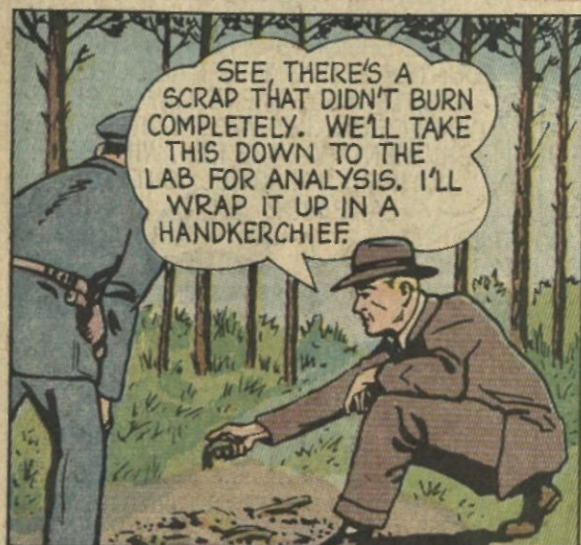
DID THE SECTION CREW HAVE ANYTHING TO REPORT?

NO, BUT THE SIGNAL MAINTAINER SAW TWO MEN HE THINKS WERE HOBOES. THEY TOOK OFF INTO THE WOODS AND HE DIDN'T GET A GOOD LOOK AT THEM.

THERE ARE THE STOLEN CARTONS, BILL. THEY'VE BEEN OPENED.

...AND TWO OFFICERS, DISPATCHED FROM LAKESIDE JUNCTION BY AUTO, ARE SOON AT THE SCENE OF THE THEFT.

SEARCHING THE AREA ALONG THE TRACK, THEY FIND THE TWO MISSING CARTONS.



...THEY LEARN SOMETHING MORE. THE OFFICERS LISTEN CAREFULLY TO THE BOY'S STORY AND TAKE NOTES. IT IS NOW APPARENT THAT THEY ARE DEALING WITH A MORE DANGEROUS TYPE OF CRIMINAL THAN AN ORDINARY HOBO.



THEY WENT DOWN TO THE TRACKS AND I WATCHED THEM FROM THE HILL. IT WAS ABOUT 8 O'CLOCK WHEN THE TRAIN STOPPED.

THAT WAS THE LONG DRAG WE SAW WHEN WE WERE DRIVING OUT HERE, BILL.

RIGHT. NUMBER 169. IT HAD A MEET WITH THE PASSENGER TRAIN.

THE BOY TAKES THE OFFICERS TO THE SPOT WHERE HE OBSERVED THE SUSPECTS BOARDING A FREIGHT TRAIN. THE POLICEMEN NOW HAVE CLUES AND A DESCRIPTION OF THE SUSPECTS...

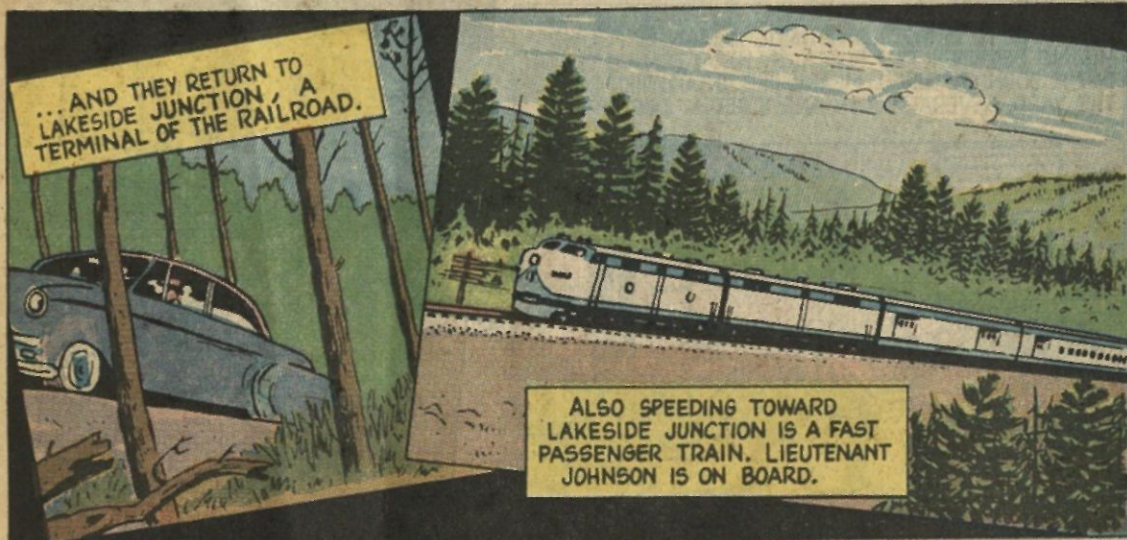
I STOOD HERE AND SAW 'EM HOP THE FREIGHT TRAIN.

HE COULD HAVE SEEN THEM ALL RIGHT FROM HERE.

SURE HE COULD. NOW, WE'D BETTER START BACK. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP, SON.



...AND THEY RETURN TO LAKESIDE JUNCTION, A TERMINAL OF THE RAILROAD.



ALSO SPEEDING TOWARD LAKESIDE JUNCTION IS A FAST PASSENGER TRAIN. LIEUTENANT JOHNSON IS ON BOARD.

AT LAKESIDE JUNCTION, THE RAILROAD POLICE MAINTAIN A WELL-EQUIPPED CRIME LABORATORY. THEIR MEN ARE TRAINED IN THE MOST MODERN TECHNIQUES OF CRIME PREVENTION AND DETECTION. TWO HOURS LATER, LIEUTENANT JOHNSON ARRIVES AT HEADQUARTERS.

LIEUTENANT, HERE'S THE LAB REPORT ON THE BURNED CLOTH. IT HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS PRISON GARB USED AT THE STATE PENITENTIARY.

IT LOOKS LIKE OUR SUSPECTS ARE CONVICTS WHO ESCAPED FROM SANDY LAKE PENITENTIARY A FEW DAYS AGO. TWO ARE AT LARGE.

WHEN LAST OBSERVED THE SUSPECTS WERE ON A FREIGHT TRAIN HEADED THIS WAY. THEY DON'T HAVE TOO LONG A START, AND IF THEY TRY TO BOARD ANOTHER TRAIN WE'LL SPOT THEM. ALL TRAINS ARE BEING INSPECTED.

A REPORT CAME IN OF AN ABANDONED AUTO FOUND TWO MILES EAST OF BIG ROCK SIDING - A STOLEN CAR.



THE SEARCH HAS NARROWED DOWN. RAILROAD POLICE ARE LOOKING THROUGH THE FREIGHT YARD, CHECKING EVERY EMPTY CAR. STATE POLICE AND DEPUTIES FROM THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE ARE WATCHING THE HIGHWAYS OUT OF LAKESIDE JUNCTION. RAILROAD POLICE WORK IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

A POLICEMAN LEARNS THAT TWO MEN ANSWERING THE DESCRIPTION OF THE SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN SEEN IN A DINER NEAR THE RAILROAD YARD.

TWO MEN IN LEATHER JACKETS, EH, JOE? HOW LONG AGO WERE THEY HERE?

'BOUT AN HOUR AGO, SERGEANT. THEY WENT OVER TOWARD THE OUTBOUND YARD.

YOU MEN TAKE THIS SIDE AND CHECK EVERY EMPTY.

OKAY.



... AND IT IS NOT LONG UNTIL A MAN IS FOUND HIDING BETWEEN TWO BOXCARS. HE ATTEMPTS TO RUN, BUT IS SOON CAPTURED. MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE YARD, SEVERAL SHOTS ARE FIRED AT OFFICERS...



CLIMB OUT OF THERE WITH YOUR HANDS UP!



IMMEDIATE CONTACT IS MADE WITH HEADQUARTERS BY RADIOTELEPHONE IN THE POLICE CAR.

YES, SIR, WE'VE GOT BOTH OF THEM. I'LL TURN THEM OVER TO THE LOCAL POLICE AND REPORT BACK TO HEADQUARTERS.



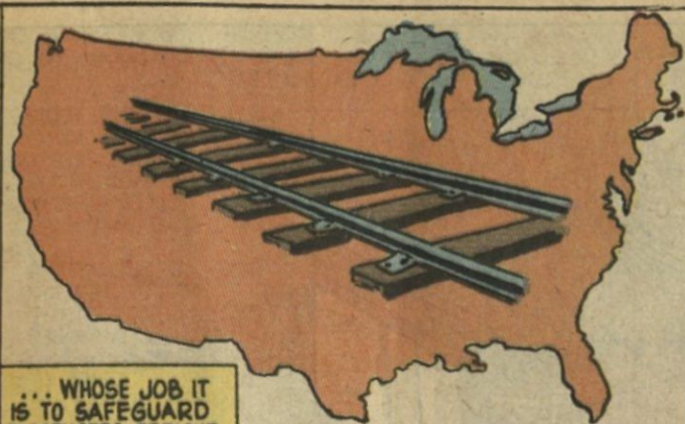
... BEFORE THE SECOND SUSPECT IS FOUND IN AN EMPTY GONDOLA CAR AND APPREHENDED. ALTHOUGH A RAILROAD POLICEMAN MUST BE READY AND ABLE TO USE FIREARMS EXPERTLY, THEY ARE ONLY USED AS A LAST RESORT TO PROTECT HIS LIFE OR THE LIVES OF OTHERS.

THE REPORT IS O.K. YOU CAN FILE EVERYTHING NOW.

RIGHT, LIEUTENANT.



AND SO ENDS ANOTHER CASE, SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED, AND FILED AWAY... ONLY ONE OF MANY ACTIVITIES DAILY CONFRONTING THE RAILROAD POLICE...



... WHOSE JOB IT IS TO SAFEGUARD PASSENGERS, FREIGHT, AND RAILROAD PROPERTY. THEIR BEAT: THE ENTIRE NETWORK OF AMERICAN RAILROADS—MAINLINE, SIDE TRACKS, YARDS, STATIONS, TERMINALS, AND PORT FACILITIES.

THE RAILROAD POLICE HAD THEIR BEGINNING A HUNDRED YEARS AGO WHEN A NUMBER OF RAILROADS HIRED THE SERVICES OF THE FAMOUS PINKERTON AGENCY.



*AN OUTSTANDING FEAT OF THIS AGENCY OCCURRED IN 1861 WHEN PINKERTON FOILED A PLOT AGAINST THE LIFE OF PRESIDENT-ELECT LINCOLN. THE INVESTIGATION DEVELOPED THAT THE PLOT INCLUDED DESTRUCTION OF TRACK ON THE RAILROAD OVER WHICH LINCOLN WAS TRAVELING TO BALTIMORE ON HIS WAY TO WASHINGTON.

THERE'S THE DOWN-BRAKE WHISTLE! WE'RE MAKING AN UNSCHEDULED STOP.

THAT'S RIGHT. OUR AGENTS ARE WAITING TO ESCORT MR. LINCOLN ACROSS BALTIMORE TO THE OTHER TRAIN.



IT'LL BE DARK BEFORE WE REACH BALTIMORE.

YES, BUT PINKERTON'S TAKING NO CHANCES. HIS MEN ARE PATROLLING THE TRACK.



*GUARDED BY PINKERTON AGENTS, LINCOLN CAME INTO BALTIMORE ON AN UNSCHEDULED TRAIN, WAS TRANSFERRED SECRETLY TO THE WASHINGTON TRAIN AND ARRIVED SAFELY AT THE CAPITAL FOR HIS INAUGURATION.



*FOLLOWING THE CIVIL WAR CAME THE SWIFT SPREAD OF THE RAILROADS WESTWARD. THOSE WERE THE DAYS WHEN OUTLAWS FLOURISHED...

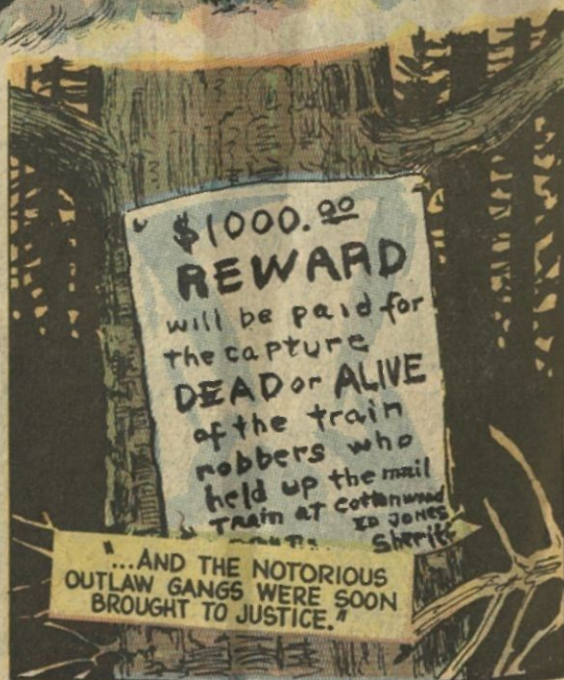


"... AND WELL-ORGANIZED GANGS OF TRAIN ROBBERS HELED UP TRAINS, TOOK THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS FROM MAIL AND EXPRESS CARS, DYNAMITED BRIDGES AND TRESTLES, KILLED PASSENGERS AND RAILROAD EMPLOYEES.

"THESE DEPREDEATIONS CALLED FOR PROMPT AND VIGOROUS ACTION. THE RAILROAD COMPANIES HIRED SPECIAL AGENTS TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY..."

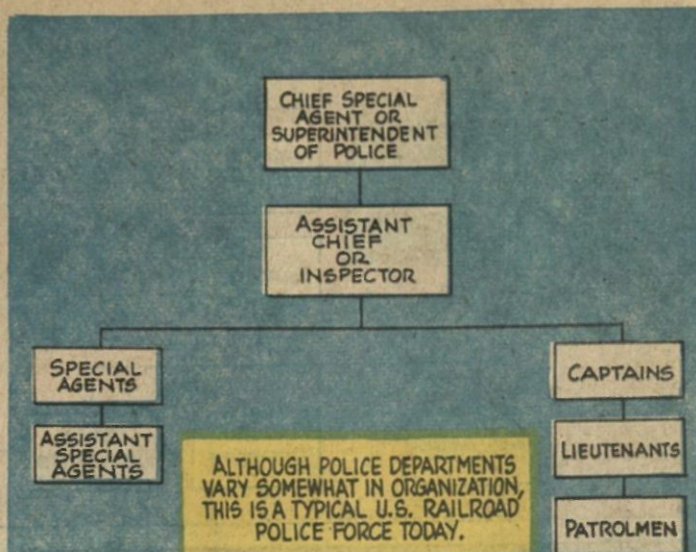


"... MEN WHO COULD HOLD THEIR OWN IN THE ACCURACY AND QUICKNESS WITH WHICH THEY COULD HANDLE THEIR SIX-GUNS IN BATTLE WITH TRAIN ROBBERS. SPECIAL AGENTS WORKED WITH OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS..."





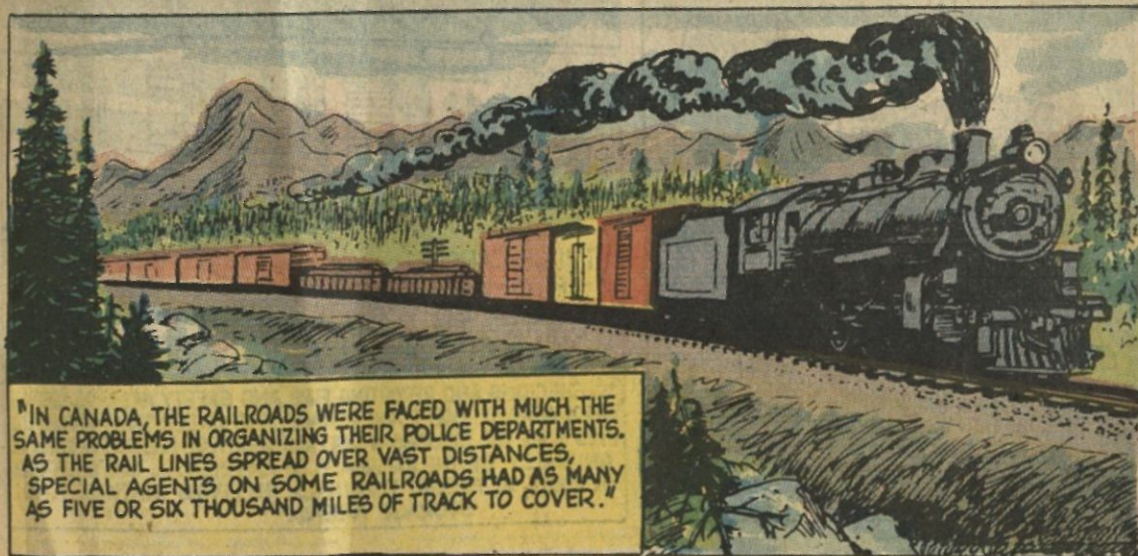
"DURING THE ERA OF THE SIX-SHOOTER, THE MANNER IN WHICH A SPECIAL AGENT WENT ABOUT HIS JOB WAS LARGELY UP TO HIM, BUT, WITH THE GROWTH OF THE RAILROAD INDUSTRY, THE NEED FOR WELL-TRAINED AND DISCIPLINED POLICE WAS RECOGNIZED. SEPARATE AND ORGANIZED RAILROAD POLICE DEPARTMENTS WERE SET UP."



"IN THE EARLY DAYS, RAILROAD DETECTIVES AND SPECIAL AGENTS HAD NO AUTHORITY OFF THEIR OWN PROPERTY UNLESS THEY WERE DEPUTY SHERIFFS."

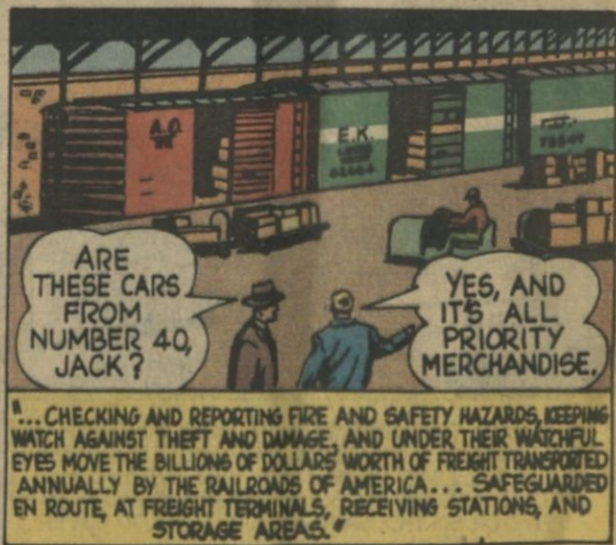
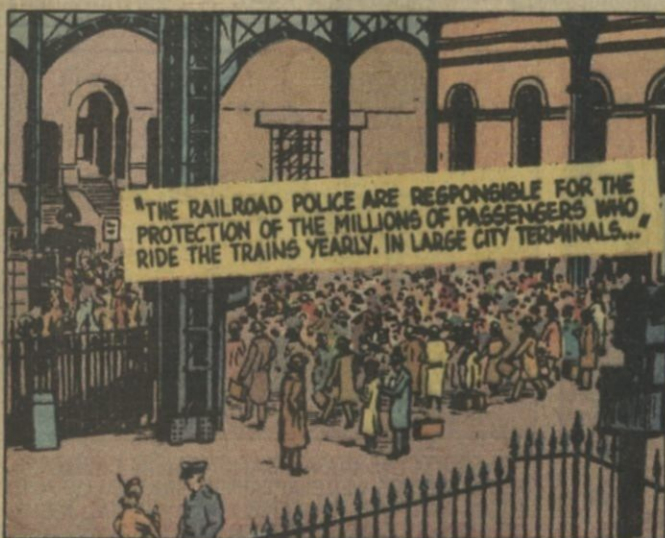


"AS PROTECTIVE ORGANIZATIONS WERE DEVELOPED, POLICE POWERS WERE ATTAINED GRADUALLY, AND TODAY RAILROAD POLICEMEN AND SPECIAL AGENTS ARE FULLY QUALIFIED OFFICERS IN MANY STATES WITH POWERS OF ARREST OFF AS WELL AS ON RAILROAD PROPERTY."



"IN CANADA, THE RAILROADS WERE FACED WITH MUCH THE SAME PROBLEMS IN ORGANIZING THEIR POLICE DEPARTMENTS. AS THE RAIL LINES SPREAD OVER VAST DISTANCES, SPECIAL AGENTS ON SOME RAILROADS HAD AS MANY AS FIVE OR SIX THOUSAND MILES OF TRACK TO COVER."

POLICE ORGANIZATION
OF A CANADIAN RAILROAD
SYSTEM. AS ON U.S. RAIL-
ROADS, THERE ARE BOTH
UNIFORMED AND PLAIN-
CLOTHED POLICE.



"PATROLLING THE YARDS, RAILROAD POLICEMEN CHECK SEALS ON INBOUND TRAINS UPON ARRIVAL AND OUTBOUND TRAINS BEFORE DEPARTURE. THEY ALSO CHECK ALL CARS IN YARDS, PARTICULARLY THOSE WITH VALUABLE FREIGHT..."



"... AND KEEP A CONSTANT LOOKOUT FOR TRESPASSERS."



"DAY AND NIGHT THEY KEEP THEIR WATCHFUL VIGIL. A RAILROAD POLICEMAN'S BEAT MAY BE A DOCKSIDE WAREHOUSE..."



"...OR THE LADDERS AND RUNNING BOARDS OF BOXCARS."



"THESE ARE SOME OF THE ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN TAKEN FROM TRESPASSERS ON RAILROAD PROPERTY. MANY OF THE TRESPASSERS APPREHENDED BY THE RAILROAD POLICE ARE DANGEROUS CRIMINALS WITH LONG RECORDS."

WORKING TOGETHER, THE VARIOUS RAILROAD POLICE DEPARTMENTS FORM A CLOSELY KNIT, COORDINATED ORGANIZATION.



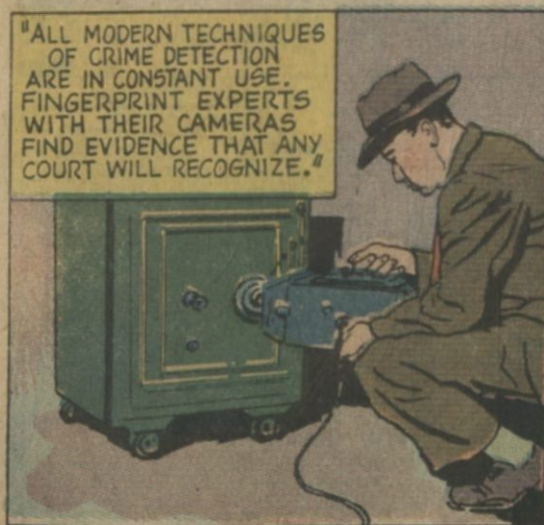
"INVESTIGATIONS BEGUN BY ONE RAILROAD ARE OFTEN CARRIED OUT BY ANOTHER. ALL RAILROADS ARE PROMPTLY ALERTED IN ALL INSTANCES OF A SERIOUS NATURE. INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE OF HELP IN THE INVESTIGATION OF A CASE IS MADE AVAILABLE AT ONCE..."



"... BY SUCH MEANS AS DIRECT TWO-WAY TELETYPE. WITHIN MINUTES, A RAILROAD IN THE EAST CAN BE IN TOUCH WITH A WESTERN ROAD."



"ALL MODERN TECHNIQUES OF CRIME DETECTION ARE IN CONSTANT USE. FINGERPRINT EXPERTS WITH THEIR CAMERAS FIND EVIDENCE THAT ANY COURT WILL RECOGNIZE."



THE DESCRIPTION FITS THIS MAN—A KNOWN PICKPOCKET.

"ROGUES' GALLERIES OF KNOWN CRIMINALS AID THE RAILROAD POLICE IN IDENTIFYING SUSPECTS."



"RAILROAD POLICE MAKE ARRESTS ONLY AFTER THOROUGH AND PAINSTAKING INVESTIGATION..."

THE EVIDENCE POINTS TO ATTEMPTED DERAILMENT. AND WE'RE PRETTY SURE OF THE SUSPECT.

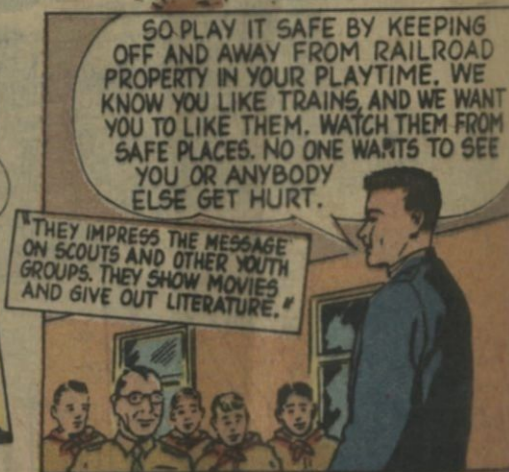
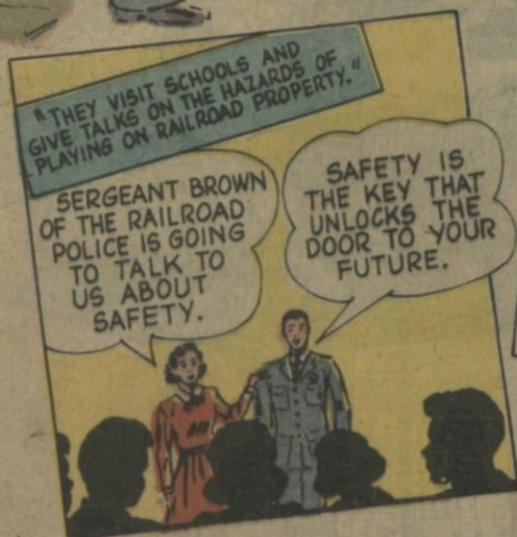
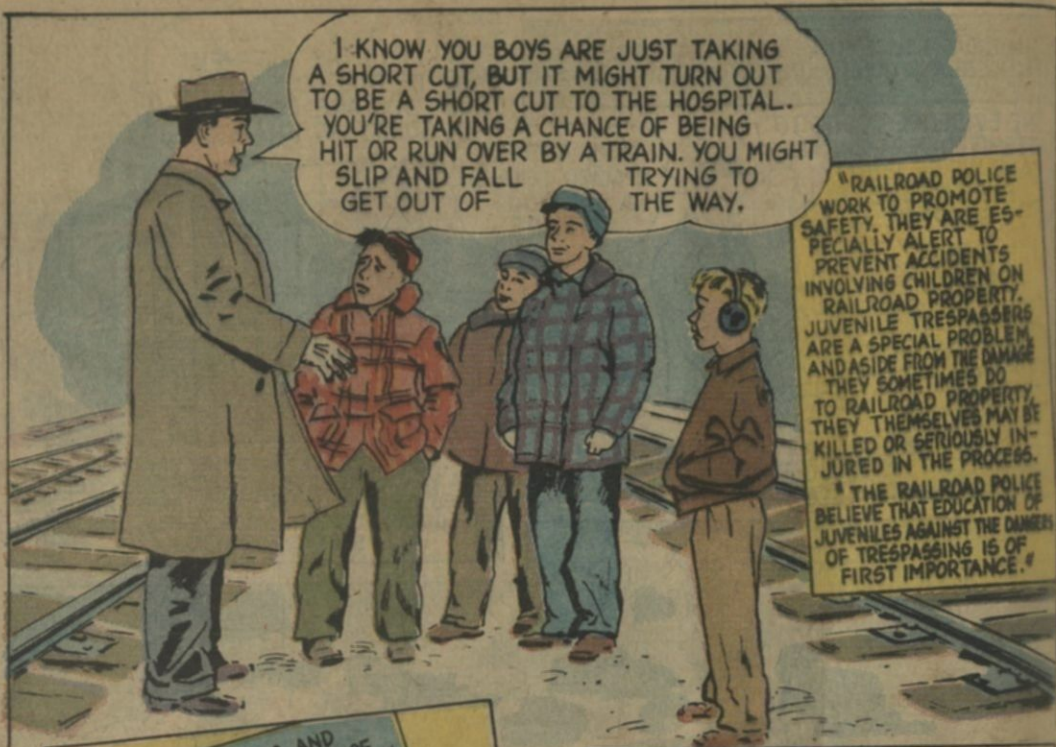
YES, AND HIS RECORD SHOWS A PREVIOUS ATTEMPT.

IT IS THE JUDGMENT OF THIS COURT THAT YOU ARE FOUND GUILTY AS CHARGED...

"...AND OVER THE YEARS THEY HAVE MAINTAINED A RECORD OF SECURING CONVICTIONS IN CLOSE TO 98 PER CENT OF ALL CASES TRIED. WITH SOME 60,000 ARRESTS MADE YEARLY, THIS RECORD SPEAKS FOR ITSELF."



"SO THOROUGH IS THE WORK OF THE RAILROAD POLICE THAT FREIGHT LOSSES DUE TO THEFT WHICH AMOUNTED TO MORE THAN \$13 MILLION IN 1921 HAVE BEEN CUT TO ABOUT \$650,000, AS REPORTED IN A RECENT YEAR. MUCH OF THIS REDUCTION CAN BE TRACED TO SUCCESSFUL INVESTIGATION IN CASES OF LOSS AND PILFERAGE."



"THEY POINT OUT THE DANGER OF CROSSING RAILROAD TRACKS EXCEPT AT PUBLIC CROSSINGS WHERE VARIOUS SIGNS AND SIGNALS GIVE WARNINGS."





"WHEREVER BAGGAGE, MAIL, AND EXPRESS ARE IN STORAGE, IN THE PROCESS OF BEING HANDLED AT STATIONS OR TRANSFER POINTS, AND IN TRANSIT, THEY BEAR AND RECEIVE THE WATCHFULNESS OF THE RAILROAD POLICE. MANY ATTEMPTS AT THEFT ARE HALTED BY THIS VIGILANCE."

"SPECIAL AGENTS, WORKING GENERALLY IN PLAINCLOTHES, OFTEN PATROL PASSENGER TRAINS. IN MOST INSTANCES, THEY ARE ABLE TO SPOT BAGGAGE THIEVES, CONFIDENCE MEN, OR PICKPOCKETS LONG BEFORE THEY GO TO WORK ON A VICTIM."

"LOSS EXPERIENCED ON A TRAIN BY A PULLMAN OR COACH PASSENGER IS TELEGRAPHED AHEAD TO A SPECIAL AGENT WHO WAITS AT THE NEXT STOP."



WHEN DID THE PASSENGER FIRST NOTICE THAT HER BILLFOLD WAS MISSING?

WHEN SHE OPENED HER HANDBAG TO PAY FOR HER LUNCH IN THE DINER.



"THE POLICE OFFICER RECEIVES A SUMMARY OF THE EVENTS LEADING TO THE LOSS. HE VERIFIES THESE DETAILS AND OBTAINS ALL OTHER NECESSARY INFORMATION FROM THE PASSENGER AND THE MEMBERS OF THE TRAIN CREW."

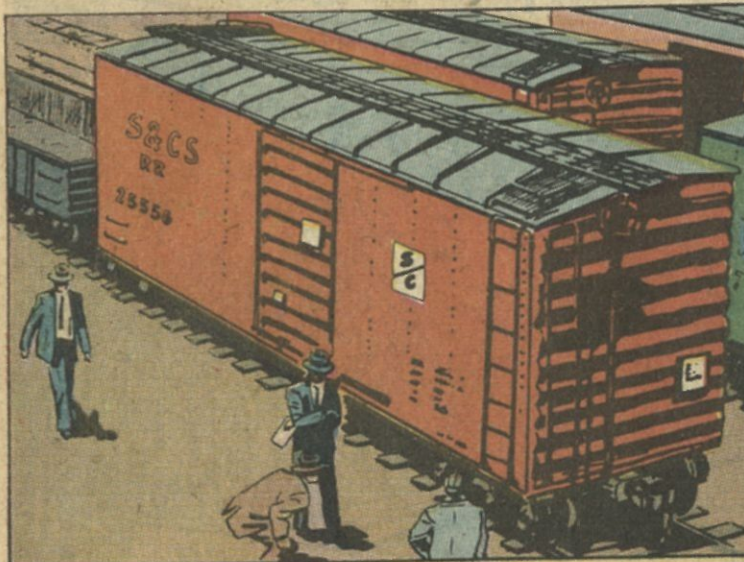
QUALIFICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT AS RAILROAD POLICE OFFICERS ARE HIGH. TRAINING IS THOROUGH, AND INCLUDES INSTRUCTION IN FIRST AID, FINGERPRINTING, USE OF FIREARMS, SCIENTIFIC AIDS IN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION, FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS, AND SAFETY.



"METHODS OF SELF DEFENSE SUCH AS JUDO ARE ALSO TAUGHT IN RAILROAD POLICE SCHOOLS."



"ADVANCED 'ON-SCENE' TRAINING FOR EXPERIENCED OFFICERS IS GIVEN BY THE NATIONAL RAILROAD POLICE ACADEMY ESTABLISHED THROUGH THE PROTECTIVE SECTION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS. 'THE PROTECTIVE SECTION, FIRST ORGANIZED IN 1921, SERVES AS A COORDINATING AGENCY AND MAINTAINS A CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP AMONG ITS MEMBER RAILROAD POLICE ORGANIZATIONS. 'RAILROAD POLICE INSTRUCTION ALSO INCLUDES POLICE ACTIVITY IN CIVIL DEFENSE AND INTERNAL SECURITY..."



"... IMPORTANT DURING WARTIME CONDITIONS WHEN SPECIAL AGENTS HAVE ADDED DUTIES SUCH AS PREVENTING SABOTAGE."



THE RAILROAD POLICE REPRESENT SOME 400 INDIVIDUAL RAILROADS, EACH WITH ITS OWN POLICIES AND PRACTICES TO BE CONSIDERED AT ALL TIMES. THEY SAFEGUARD THE MORE THAN 233,000 MILES OF ROAD AND 389,000 MILES OF TRACK OPERATED BY THE RAILROADS—AND THE MORE THAN 400,000,000 PASSENGERS AS WELL AS THE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS' WORTH OF FREIGHT TRANSPORTED BY THE RAILROADS ANNUALLY.

THE RAILROAD POLICE TAKE PARDONABLE PRIDE IN THE PROFICIENCY OF THEIR ORGANIZATION AND IN THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION WHICH EXISTS AMONG ITS MEMBERS. AND THE EXCEPTIONAL RECORD THEY HAVE MAINTAINED OVER THE YEARS—THE SAVING OF LIVES AND PROPERTY AND THE PREVENTION OF CRIMES—IS EXCELLED BY NO OTHER PROTECTIVE AGENCY.

